



Junior Ranger Activity Booklet



Little Rock
Central High School
National Historic Site
Little Rock, Arkansas

CENTRAL
HIGH



Central High National Historic Site was established by an Act of Congress on November 6, 1998, in order to "preserve, protect, and interpret for the benefit, education, and inspiration of present and future generations, Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, and its role in the integration of public schools and the development of the Civil Rights movement in the United States." The site is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

For more information, please contact:
Superintendent
Little Rock Central High School NHS
2125 Daisy L. Gatson Bates Drive
Little Rock, Arkansas 72202
(501) 374-1957
www.nps.gov/chsc

The Little Rock Nine

Melba Pattillo
Elizabeth Eckford
Ernest Green
Gloria Ray
Carlotta Walls
Terrence Roberts
Jefferson Thomas
Minnijean Brown
Thelma Mothershed





How to Become a Junior Ranger

So, you want to be a Junior Ranger at the Central High National Historic Site? Do you have what it takes? Here's a secret: Anyone between the ages of 9 and 12 can become a Junior Ranger at the Central High National Historic Site! It's easy and fun to do! Encourage your friends and relatives to become Junior Rangers with you! Just complete the requirements listed below, and live by the Junior Ranger Promise (see inside back cover).



Requirements

- 1) *Visit the Central High National Historic Site* and explore the exhibit.
- 2) *Talk to a park ranger* about your experience at the Visitor Center.
- 3) *Complete the activity pages* in this booklet. If you have questions, ask your parents, friends, or a park ranger for help.
- 4) *Submit this booklet* to a park ranger at the information desk in the Central High National Historic Site Visitor Center, or mail to the address below.

If you can't complete three activities while you are here, take this booklet home, fill out the pages, and then just mail the booklet to the park address below. When we receive your booklet, we will send you an official Junior Ranger Badge and Certificate, as well as return your booklet.

You can do it! Become a Junior Ranger today!

Mail to:

**Little Rock Central High National Historic Site
Junior Ranger Program
2125 Daisy L. Gatson Bates Drive
Little Rock, AR 72202**





Hi! I'm the Central High School mascot, the Tiger.

I am here to help you fill out your Junior Ranger Booklet and take you on a tour of the Central High School National Historic Site.

Pick up a #2 pencil at the front desk and proceed to the exhibit hall inside the Visitor Center.

Fill out three activities and present this booklet to the interpretive ranger at the Visitor Center to become an official National Park Service Junior Ranger!

Introduction

Little Rock Central High School is a place to learn about a pivotal time in history, to learn how far we've come, and to learn how far we have to go.

In 1957, Little Rock, Arkansas was a battleground in the struggle for civil rights and desegregation of public schools.

Telling A Story

Walk into the exhibit on the 1957 Crisis at Central High, located in the Visitor Center at the Mobil Gas Station. In the 1950s—just like today—the media (newspapers, television, radio) was important in telling the Central High School (CHS) story to the state, nation and world. The conflict at CHS became a worldwide media event.

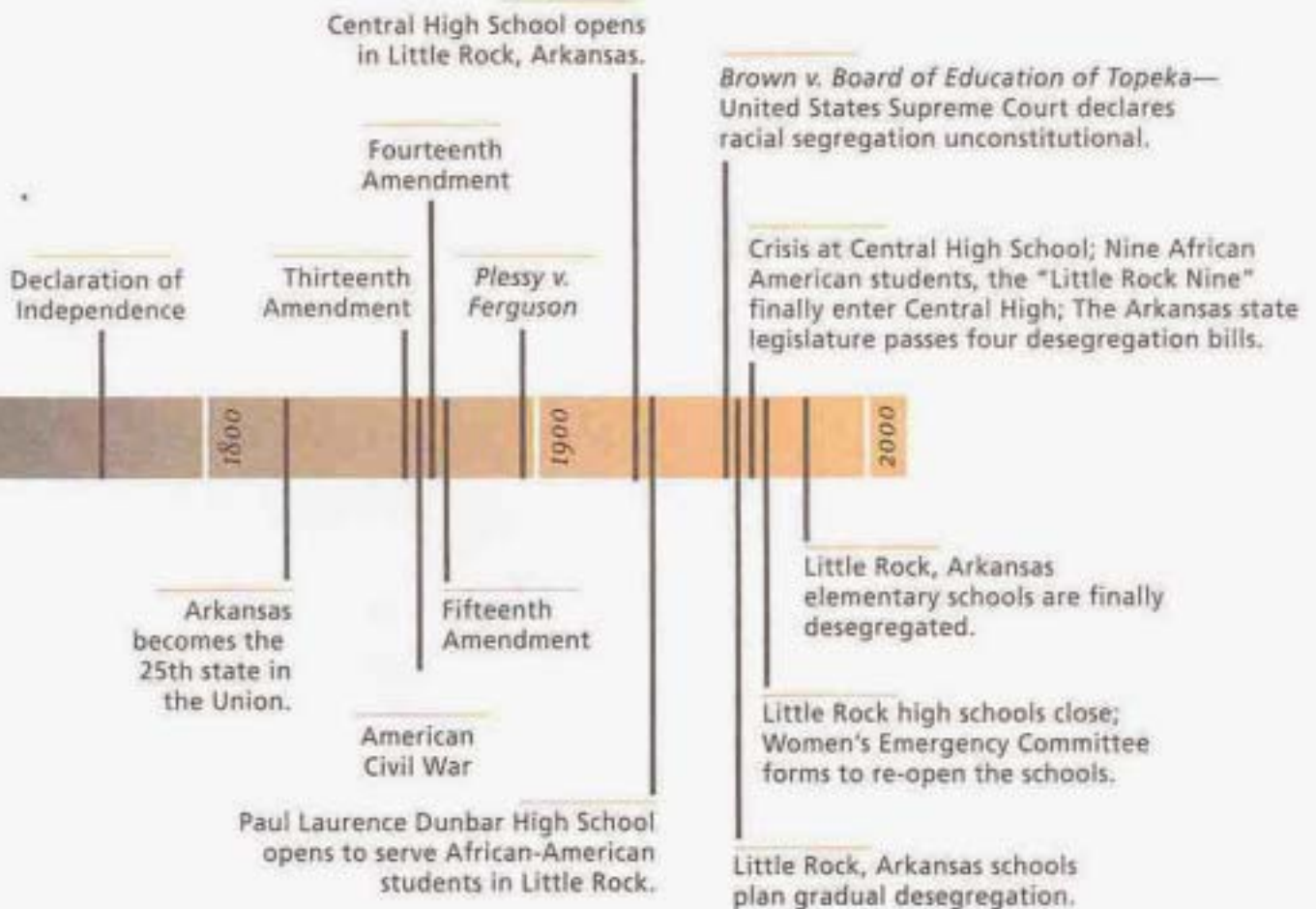




Timeline



Pretend you are the reporter who must get information for a magazine article. Use the exhibit to fill in timeline dates and fill in the blanks for your story. Please check in with one of the rangers if you have any questions.



Fill in the Blank

1. The Declaration of Independence declares that all _____ are created _____.
2. The Fourteenth Amendment guaranteed all citizens equal rights under the law and outlawed _____.
3. *Plessy v. Ferguson* declared that _____ facilities based on race were constitutional as long as they were equal.
4. The _____ Amendment declared all persons born in the United States were legal citizens.
5. _____ laws promoted racial prejudice and segregation.
6. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People fought against _____.
7. The Little Rock School Board began to desegregate its schools in _____ at Central High School.
8. _____ was governor of Arkansas at the time of the 1957 crisis at Central High School.
9. _____ African-American students were enrolled to attend Central High school in 1957.
10. Governor Orval Faubus used the Arkansas _____ to prevent the nine African-American students from entering Central High School.
11. _____ was president during the Central High School crisis.
12. The _____ formed to reopen Little Rock's high schools during the 1958-59 school year.
13. Elementary schools in Little Rock were _____ in 1968.
14. The Central High School crisis received national attention because of _____ coverage.





Matching

Match the following events, people or groups with their role in the Central High School crisis.

- | | |
|---|---|
| A. Daisy Bates | H. Media |
| B. Orval Faubus | I. Ernest Green |
| C. Mother's League of Central High School | J. Paul Laurence Dunbar High School |
| D. Alex Wilson | K. Ronald Davies |
| E. Thurgood Marshall | L. <i>Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka</i> |
| F. National Association for the Advancement of Colored People | M. U. S. Army |
| G. Women's Emergency Committee to Open Our Schools | N. Dwight D. Eisenhower |

- ___ 1. U.S.-based civil rights organization that works to eliminate discrimination against racial minorities.
- ___ 2. President of the United States at the time of the Central High Crisis in 1957.
- ___ 3. President of the state chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People during the 1957 Crisis.
- ___ 4. 101st Airborne Division of this organization surrounded and escorted the nine African-American students into Little Rock Central High School in 1957.
- ___ 5. Group that included newspapers, radio, and television that brought the events at Central High School in 1957 to the world.
- ___ 6. Governor of Arkansas in 1957 who opposed desegregation of Arkansas's schools.
- ___ 7. Federal judge who ordered the Little Rock School Board to follow its plan to integrate the schools.
- ___ 8. Reporter who was attacked by segregationist protesters outside of Central High School.
- ___ 9. First of the Little Rock Nine to graduate from Central High School.
- ___ 10. First African-American Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, he successfully argued the *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* case that declared racial segregation in public schools unconstitutional.
- ___ 11. Organization that supported segregation of Little Rock schools.
- ___ 12. Organization that formed to reopen public high schools in Little Rock in 1958.
- ___ 13. U.S. Supreme Court case of 1954 that declared racial segregation in schools unconstitutional.
- ___ 14. Vocational and liberal arts school opened in 1929 for African-American students in Little Rock.

Word Search

Find the following words that relate to the Central High School Crisis of 1957.

✓ Education
Bravery
Courage
Racism
Determination
Persistence
Constitution
Supreme Court

Civil Rights
Central High
Commitment
Student
Ambition
Personality
Preparation
Opportunity

Equality
Justice
Segregation
Integration
Law
Freedom
Liberty

C	A	C	I	V	I	L	R	I	G	H	T	S	Z	T	M	E	U	C	G
G	B	P	E	R	S	I	S	T	E	N	C	E	C	O	W	D	R	I	Y
U	W	O	S	B	X	B	J	C	P	E	R	S	O	N	A	L	I	T	Y
Q	J	V	G	B	C	E	D	U	C	A	T	I	O	N	B	R	I	H	O
K	I	C	D	P	E	R	S	N	S	O	R	B	W	Z	E	L	X	P	K
S	T	U	D	E	N	T	Q	M	C	T	V	E	K	R	A	C	I	S	M
O	K	X	R	I	T	Y	A	S	T	M	I	E	C	U	F	O	L	A	V
P	G	I	K	H	R	O	W	Z	W	O	P	C	Q	B	Y	M	D	C	F
Q	O	N	B	R	A	A	P	V	A	D	D	E	E	R	C	M	A	O	M
D	C	T	I	A	L	M	C	P	R	E	P	A	R	A	T	I	O	N	I
C	U	E	J	P	H	A	B	M	O	E	H	O	G	V	C	T	L	S	R
K	Q	G	S	Y	I	E	C	I	H	R	Y	D	P	E	W	M	I	T	P
T	U	R	N	M	G	B	O	V	T	F	T	C	H	R	A	E	G	I	W
F	L	A	S	T	H	I	R	K	P	I	Z	U	O	Y	B	N	C	T	Y
T	C	T	P	D	C	E	G	A	R	U	O	C	N	E	F	T	H	U	U
G	R	I	Q	M	O	P	L	F	I	C	R	N	S	I	C	A	O	T	R
C	L	O	Y	S	U	P	R	E	M	E	C	O	U	R	T	R	G	I	A
I	C	N	O	I	T	A	G	E	R	G	E	S	C	F	A	Y	L	O	K
W	A	H	U	R	K	D	E	T	E	R	M	I	N	A	T	I	O	N	C



Walking in the Footsteps of the Nine

Central High School

Take a journey across the street to look at the façade of Central High School and learn more about the school that the nine African-American students wanted to attend in 1957. Stand in front of the building and look at this impressive structure. The building is a concrete symbol of equal rights under the law, a guarantee that is given to all Americans in the United States Constitution.

Today, Central High School is a working high school in Little Rock, Arkansas. It is one the largest high schools in the state of Arkansas and a symbol of academic excellence.

The school was built in 1927 and represents a style of architecture called Collegiate Gothic Revival. This style is often used on college campuses.

Central High School has four stories and is made up of: a central auditorium in the middle, two classroom wings on each side, a bell tower, and two basements. There are 100 classrooms in this building.

Four statues are central figures to the building. They represent Ambition, Personality, Opportunity and Preparation. Two of the statues are female, two are male—can you guess which ones?

*Answer the following questions about this building:**

1. What is the name of the building?
2. Of what materials is the building constructed?
3. Do you see any patterns or shapes repeated on the building? For example: spirals, circles, arches, and curved or straight lines.
4. What adjectives would you use to describe the building's "personality" (fun, serious, scary, etc.)?
5. What makes this building different from or similar to other buildings in the neighborhood?
6. Look at the area around the building and answer the following:
 - a. What man-made objects do you see? Look for things such as buildings, roads, trains and tracks.
 - b. What naturally occurring features do you see? Look for such things as trees, hills and water.



7. Do your observations from question #6 give you any clues as to what this area was like in the past?
8. What do you think the future holds for this building?
9. How would the loss of this building affect the neighborhood and community?
10. **On the sheet below, draw a sketch of the building** (make sure to include the following: central tower, class wings, shields, medallions, four statues, parapet, front staircase, gothic (pointed) arches, round arches of cut stone.





Central High School National Historic Site

Commemorative Garden

The Central High School Commemorative Garden celebrates the ability of people to overcome adversity. It depicts how Central High's students have changed, and how they have stayed the same, between 1927 and the present. It also shows how people have many things in common, regardless of where we are from or under what circumstances we grew up.

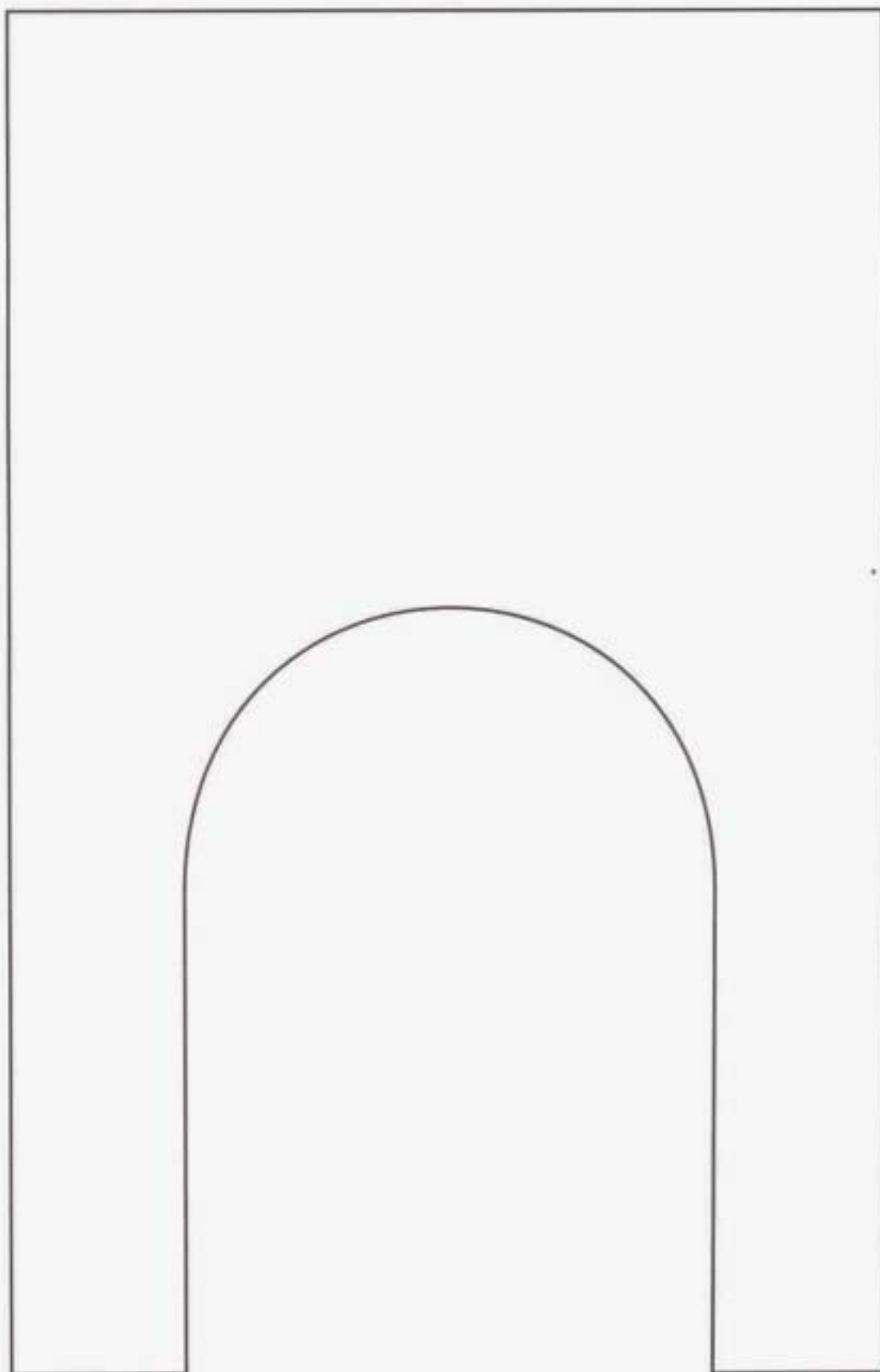
At the center of the garden is a circular plaza with triumphant arches. Benches are placed along the path so that visitors may sit and think about the past, present and future. The winding path symbolizes the journey of life for all of us, regardless of our race or background. There are nine maple trees planted in honor of the Little Rock Nine. They symbolize growth, protection, family, strength and new life.

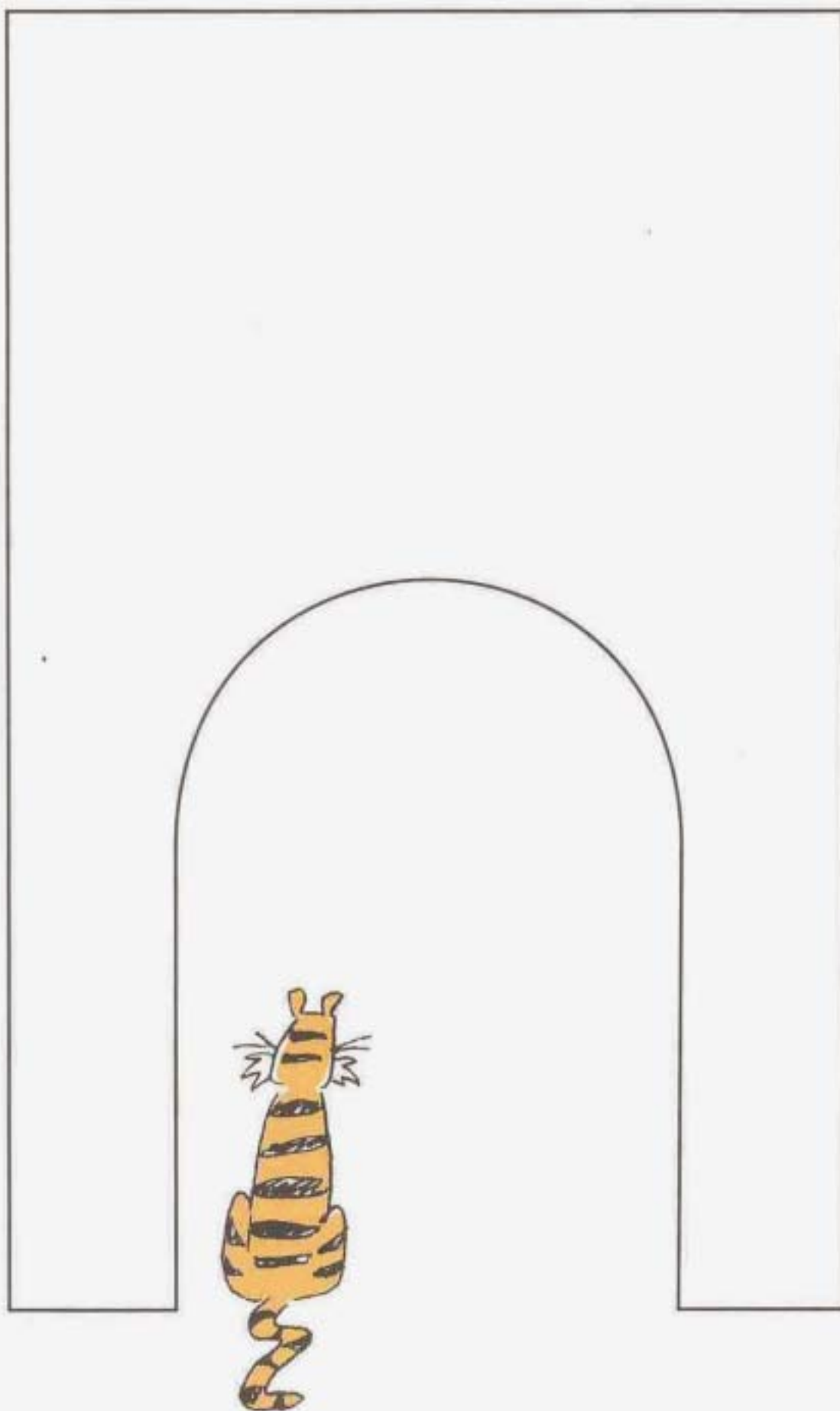
Look at the arches and find the images described in the list below. Then mark their locations on the drawing of the blank arches on the next page. If you need help, use the hints after the descriptions!



- a) Front of Little Rock High School, 1927 (arch A, first row)
- b) Elizabeth Eckford, 1957 (arch B, sixth row)
- c) Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, 1930s (arch B, second row)
- d) The Little Rock Nine, 1997 (arch B, eleventh row)
- e) Ernest Green graduating, 1958 (arch A, fifth row)
- f) Students street dancing, 1957 (arch B, fourth row)
- g) Mobil Gas Station, 1997 (arch A, fourteenth row)
- h) Two National Guardsman with Jefferson Thomas, 1957 (arch A, fourth row)
- i) Four women from the Women's Emergency Committee, 1958 (arch A, fourth row)
- j) Central High students, 1997 (arch B, eleventh row)
- k) 101st Airborne Division, 1957 (arch A, fifth row)
- l) Judge Ronald Davies, 1957 (arch A, fourth row)
- m) The Little Rock Nine at the White House, 1997 (arch B, thirteenth row)
- n) Elizabeth Eckford and Hazel Massery, 1997 (arch A, thirteenth row)

Write down three feelings you experience as you walk in the commemorative garden:





How Do You Feel?

After learning more about desegregation from the Visitor Center exhibit, write your answers to the following in the Central High School Junior Ranger Comment Book:

How Would You Feel If?

- 1) You were not allowed to attend your school because of your race?
- 2) You could not participate in extracurricular activities at your school because of your race?
- 3) You had to be escorted by a soldier when you walked to class?
- 4) How do you think the Little Rock Nine felt?



Sources

National Register Nomination, Little Rock Central High School (Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, 1977). Copies can be obtained by calling the AHPP at (501) 324-9880.

National Historic Landmark Nomination, Little Rock Central High School (Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, 1982). Copies can be obtained by calling the AHPP at (501) 324-9880.

Final General Management Plan, Environmental Impact Statement for Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site (National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior, April, 2002).

All the World is Watching Us: Little Rock and the '57 Crisis (Central High School National Historic Site)

A Life is Worth More than a Moment: the Desegregation of Little Rock Central High School (Indiana University Press, 1999)

The Spirit of Central High: Central High Commemorative Garden, A Research Narrative for the Central High National Historic Site (Julienne Crawford, April, 2001)

Central High School Commemorative Garden: Photo Descriptions (Julienne Crawford, September, 2001)



Resources

Sometimes Junior Rangers of the Central High National Historic Site need to do book reports for school. Sometimes they even need a research project topic for class that requires information from the internet. What would be a better subject than the historical events and people surrounding the Central High National Historic Site? This is an excellent opportunity for you to show off your skills as a National Park Service Junior Ranger while doing your homework! Here are some sources that will help you along the way, so rush out to your library today or point your browser this way...

Booklist

- David A. Adler, *A Picture Book of Thurgood Marshall*. New York: Holiday House, 1997.
 Melba Pattillo Beals, *Warriors Don't Cry (Young Reader's Edition)*. New York: Pocket Books, 1995.
 Richard Kelso, *Days of Courage: The Little Rock Story*. Austin: The Steck-Vaughn Company, 1993.
 Laurie A. O'Neil, *Little Rock: The Desegregation of Central High*. Brookfield, CT: The Millbrook Press, 1994.
 Peter Spier, *We the People: The Story of the United States Constitution*. New York: Doubleday, 1987.

Websites

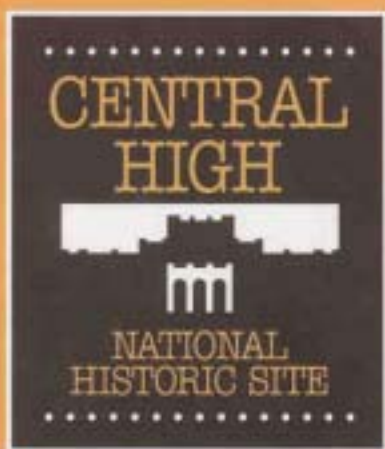
- Central High Visitor Center — www.nps.gov/chsc — be sure and click on the "in depth" icon to learn more about the events and the people involved.
 Little Rock 1957: Pages From History—The Central High Crisis—www.arkdemgaz.com/prev/central/
 Little Rock Nine Foundation — www.littlerock9.com
 We Shall Overcome: Daisy Bates House — www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travel/civilrights/lak2.htm
 National Civil Rights Museum Site — www.midsouth.rr.com/civilrights/
 Seattle Times: Martin Luther King, Jr./Civil Rights Movement Site — <http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/mlk/movement/index.html>
 Timeline of the American Civil Rights Movement — www.wmich.edu/politics/mlk
 Voices of the Civil Rights Era — www.webcorp.com/civilrights/index.htm
 We Shall Overcome: Historic Places of the Civil Rights Movement — www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travel/civilrights/
 Mississippi Civil Rights Movement Oral History Bibliography — www.dept.usm.edu/~mcrohbl
 Plessy v. Ferguson, 163 U.S. 537 (1896) — www.bowdoin.edu/~sbodurt2/court/cases/plesst.html
 Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site — www.nps.gov/malu
 Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site — www.nps.gov/brvb



The Junior Ranger Promise

As a Central High School National Historic Site Junior Ranger I, _____, promise to:

- Treat all other people with respect
- Cooperate with others and communicate in positive ways
- Learn more about the history and contributions of all cultures
- Work hard and do my best in school
- Tell others about the National Park Service and about my experiences at the Central High School National Historic Site



Hours of Operation:

Monday-Saturday: 10am - 4pm

Sunday: 1pm - 4pm

Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas
and New Year's Day

2125 Daisy L. Gatson Bates Drive
Little Rock, Arkansas 72202

For special tours call 501-374-1957